

The Spring butterfly fauna of Milos appears to be quite similar to that of other islands in this area, such as Paros and Siphnos. It is characterized by the paucity of its species and by the lack of definable endemic subspecies. The poor vegetation of the island, as well as its small land mass and adverse weather conditions, no doubt play an important part on the island's restricted faunal composition.

References

- Coutsis, J. G., 1978. Spring Butterflies on the Greek island of Sifnos. *Entomologist's Rec. J. Var.* **90**: 300-301.
Coutsis, J. G., 1981. Spring Butterflies on the Greek islands of Paros and Sifnos. *Entomologist's Rec. J. Var.* **93**: 154-156.
-
-

LARGE TORTOISESHELL, NYMPHALIS POLYCHLOROS (LINNAEUS) IN 1985 — It may be worth placing on record the recent observation by my friend Nick Mallet of a single female large tortoiseshell butterfly at a bramble flower in Wanstead Park, South Essex, [London], on 14th July 1985.

The origin of this particular insect is open to question. Certainly I have seen no others here in the last ten years which rules out a remnant breeding colony! One is left therefore with two choices: either a genuine migrant or an escape/introduction. Contact with the local butterfly breeding fraternity seems to rule out the latter choice, (although one can never be one hundred percent certain). COLIN W. PLANT, Passmore Edwards Museum, Romford Road, Stratford, London, E15 4LZ.

EREBIA EURYALE ESP. AND THE CAMERA. — The reaction of Lepidoptera to particular sounds does not appear to be often described. I had a striking example in the Swiss Alps on July 28 1985, while photographing in sunshine an assembly of about twenty *E. euryale*, all males, which appeared to be absorbing some mineral substance from a dried up puddle in a rough road. Human conversation nearby did not seem to upset them, and I was able to approach cautiously to within about six feet of them without causing disturbance. But the effect of the click when my Minolta camera was operated was dramatic: the butterflies without exception rose simultaneously into the air and flew around locally. This was repeated later under the same stimulus by another assembly a few yards away. After about fifteen minutes, however, both had reformed in similar numbers. — R. F. BRETHERTON, Folly Hill, Birtley Green, Bramley, Guildford, Surrey GU5 0LE.